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Delphiniums

of the

Lyondel Gardens

Home of
The Magic Seeds
Cross Pollinated by Hand

"One Quality, One Price."

LEON H. LEONIAN

Breeder

Morgantown, W. Va.

1937-38

Delphiniums

OF THE

Lyondel Gardens

TO MY OLD CUSTOMERS

(This message does not apply to my new or prospective customers)

Now that we have come to know and to trust each other, I am going to show my appreciation of your continued support by adopting a new policy towards you. Hereafter if you have failure with my seeds, REGARDLESS OF ANY CAUSE, I shall be glad to duplicate your order free of charge. I know that this friendly gesture on my part will not be abused by you. Furthermore, should you need aid in solving some of your garden problems, I shall be happy to give you what assistance I can, or secure it for you in case I find myself unequal to the task. Just remember this one thing: MY INTEREST IN YOU DOES NOT END AFTER THE SALE IS MADE.

TO MY PROSPECTIVE CUSTOMERS

Other growers and breeders are eager to have as many customers as possible; I am not. Even at the height of depression the seeds of the Lyondel Gardens were completely sold out before they were harvested. Since I can devote only my spare time to breeding activities and sell nothing but hand pollinated seeds, my supply is very limited. Consequently I am particular about my customers. If you are a chronic kicker and fault finder, you are not wanted; if you are a poor sport and cannot take your losses or gains with the same degree of grace, you are urged to take your money elsewhere; if you think that you know all about delphiniums, or if you don't know anything about them, you are not welcome into the circle of Lyondel family; if you don't have faith in my integrity and don't believe that I share my best with my customers, new or old, you are not the type of customer I want; if you approach the Lyondels with a chip on your shoulders, please stay away.

After reading the foregoing you will want to know what assurance I give you of getting your money's worth. My answer is "none." I make no guarantee whatever; you take the risk and I take your money. You may not obtain a single seedling from a packet of my seed; or not one of my seedlings may be worth keeping. You have no recourse; I am under no obligation to refund your money or to replace your order. Only under these conditions must you buy seeds or seedlings from me.

Having read this far you should stop and throw this circular away. But if you are venturesome, read on.

Most growers claim to have the world's best delphiniums. If you expect to find such a claim here, you are going to be disappointed. Not having seen all the delphiniums in the world, all I can tell you is that mine are not even among the best. This is a poor salesmanship, isn't it? But it will save you and me a lot of headaches.

I deal exclusively in hybrid seeds of my own production. No one can fortell the behavior of any hybrid seed. I can say only this: my seed and pollen parents are true to description; they are carefully and rigidly selected and crossed according to methods developed by science. After that nature takes its course. All I can do is to hope for the best.

Two dollars and fifty cents is a lot of money to pay for a packet of seeds concerning which I can give you no assurance whatever. But you should know how I produce my seeds. Delphinium breeding season with me extends from June to September. During that time I must go over all my seed parents to remove the anthers from each individual flower and to keep the spikes covered with bags in order to prevent insect pollination. Since only a few

flowers at a time open on a spike, I must go over it every day. It will be three or four days before the pollen receiving organ is ready for the pollen; then I must select my pollen bearing plants and often by special treatment coax the anthers to develop an ample supply of pollen; the flowers must be pollinated one at a time; thus every flower receives two visits from me, and every spike a great many visits. If every flower thus pollinated would set its full quota of seeds, things would not be so bad. But very often the seed pods form without any seeds, or they may contain only one or two seeds. This means that many flowers and much work go into one packet of seeds. In the meantime what does the other fellow do who sells open pollinated seeds only? He can sit in the shade and depend on bees for his pollination. Why don't I do the same? Because I think that man is slightly more intelligent than most insects, and because I am convinced that open pollinated seeds cannot yield very many superior seedlings and consequently are worth but very little to my customers. Do you still think that \$2.50 is an exorbitant price for a packet of hand pollinated seeds particularly in view of the fact that the other fellow is asking anywhere from one to ten dollars per packet of open pollinated seed, the kind that I do not produce, do not sell, or give away, and destroy when produced?

While I have no patience with kickers, I welcome constructive criticism. If you merely tell me that you failed with my seeds and seedlings, I shall take it with good grace; but if you jump to the conclusion that I sold you old or worthless seeds, then you and I part company.

WHAT DO OTHERS SAY ABOUT THE LYONDELS?

“Any fact is better established by two or three good testimonies than by a thousand arguments.”—Emmons.

The following excerpts have been taken from unsolicited letters written by satisfied and not so satisfied customers. See what people in your own locality have to say about the Lyondels and govern yourself accordingly.

Winnetka, Ill., July 24, 1936

I showed one of your delphiniums at our spring show at Garfield Park, which had a four foot spike with flowers three inches across. It took four blue ribbons and ended up as the best exhibit in the whole show.

M. D. White

Wauwatosa, Wisc., July 30, 1936

Mr. Lehman showed me his delphiniums raised from your seed. I have been growing delphinium for at least fifteen years and was pretty proud of mine. But oh, my! When I saw Mr. Lehman's, I said that those were the most beautiful I ever saw.

Parkway Nursery Co.

Kalamazoo, Mich., Aug. 3, 1936

A few weeks ago I was in the garden of Mr. Carl Shook of Alma, Mich., and was greatly surprised at his fine delphiniums, so much finer than anything I have ever seen. Upon enquiry I found that he had obtained the seeds from you.

Homer M. Dunham

Newark, N. J., July 1, 1936

This is the third straight year I have been purchasing seeds and I want to say that your delphiniums are without question the finest I or any of my friends have ever seen.

Albert C. Faatz

St. Paul, Minn., July 1, 1936

In this dry year your delphiniums are going right to town. I have one of the loveliest orchid tones; it is a light, pure color, no blue petals or flecks. I have a dark one that is as large as I hope they will ever allow delphiniums to be. Your strain of delphiniums is yielding some of the finest delphiniums I have had, and further, it yields more high grade plants than any other strain.

Robert Schreiner

Evanston, Ill., July 1, 1936

I have grown delphinium nearly thirty years and have tried about all seeds offered in Europe and in the United States. The best delphiniums I have grown from seed I am happy to announce are from your seed. Your plants have very vigorous flowering stock, exceptionally large individual flowers, and wonderful colors.

Richard Gloede

Wawa, Pa., Sept. 15, 1936

The resultant plants from seed sent us by you last autumn are a delight. We are happy to know where to turn for such quality.

Hildemere Gardens

Nyack, N. Y., Sept. 27, 1936

I have now more than one hundred of your plants. They have been a perfect delight with many magnificent spikes of flowers. Some measured three inches across.

Mrs. Arthur Judson

Newton, N. J., Sept. 12, 1936

The second blooms of some of your seedlings are larger than the June blooms. They are extremely beautiful; such colors and new formations! I have obtained some nice blooms from other growers in this country and England and thought that I had reached the top until I received your plants; I then found out that my other plants were not in the same class with yours.

S. S. Shaw

Ghent, N. Y., Sept. 2, 1936

When I compare the blossoms from your seeds with other strains of delphinium, it is just like showing a race horse with a cart horse.

Col. R. W. Day

Pullman, Wash., Sept. 20, 1936

Your seedlings are now in full bloom. They are on dry land, have had no rain since July, yet some of the plants are five feet tall with a maiden spike two feet long. The flowers are of good size and are all double but one. I am well satisfied with the quality and variety of Lyondels.

A. A. Samuelson

Hartland, Wisc., Sept. 23, 1936

Three years ago I purchased my first packet of Lyondel delphinium seeds from you; a year later I ordered four packets. These five packets have produced a little more than 500 plants. I have been culling out a few of the ordinary ones and selling the good ones for \$10.00 per dozen. Everyone that has come to see my 350 plants in bloom, was just taken away. They all told me they had never seen anything so glorious.

Rev. Ph. Hartwig

Delphi, Ind., June 26, 1936

Seedlings and seeds purchased from you do not equal my own strain; visitors to my garden pass yours by and give their praise to plants of my own stock.

Smith's Flower Garden

La Grange, Ind., June 22, 1936

I must tell you of two of your delphiniums blooming for the first time; both have flowers over 3 1-2 inches across with wonderful color and spike. The other seedlings are all exceptionally fine.

Hallie L. Erwin

Red Bank, N. J., July 6, 1936

I have a row of plants grown from your Connoisseurs' Series. They are far and away the finest looking lot of young plants for their age that I ever grew or ever saw grown elsewhere. Growing alongside them in the same plot under exactly similar conditions are four lots of plants grown from seeds of other specialists, including some I went to England for, and some saved from a few extra good plants of my own. Your seeds were sown three weeks later than the rest, yet they make the others look like weeds.

J. E. Baines

Stow, Mass., June 27, 1936

This year I have a marvelous stand of Lyondel plants which are attracting a great deal of attention. The curling which bothered me so much last year seems to be overcome, each spike standing straight and bearing its heavy load with ease. You may be interested to know that a vase of twelve spikes shown at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's Peony Show on June 16 and 17 won first prize; eight of the spikes were from your seeds and four were from my single blues.

Mrs. N. M. Estabrook

Greensburg, Pa., July 15, 1936

Last year I ordered two packets of seeds from you and am sorry to say they did not come up.

Mrs. John Barclay

Steubenville, Ohio, Feb. 4, 1937

I raised eighty plants from one packet of your seed. We are cleaning out all our old plants; from now on I will have nothing but Lyondels. . . . Flowers from one of your plants raised from your seed were among the bouquet which won first prize at Great Lakes Exposition last summer.

Mrs. J. B. Hughes

Dayton, Ohio, July 14, 1936

Delphiniums from your seeds have the least blue in them of any strain I have tried, and not all of them are perfect, but I doubt if a better bed of delphs was grown around here. I got no 7 feet plants or fifty inch bloom but I did get the largest flowers I have ever seen. The best white came from the lavender selfs and the darkest from the whites. Not all seeds came up but they were much better than several others tried. From the Connoisseurs' Series one plant was the finest I have ever seen; one wiry stemmed plant was fine but the flowers were so large I had to tie it up. Your plants last longer than other strains.

Mrs. A. W. Newman

Webster, Mass., August 17, 1936

Your nos. 3 and 4 germinated only 4 per cent, whereas the ones I purchased last year gave me 85 per cent. . . . The year old plants are blooming now and are the most wonderful specimens I have ever seen.

Mrs. D. J. Nadeau

Bayside, N. Y., June 30, 1936

I have purchased seeds from you for two years and must say that the plants they produced are beyond my expectation.

Mrs. Carrie Rudert

Madison, N. J., June 26, 1936

Seedlings purchased from you last year are gorgeous. I don't think your strain can be surpassed.

Mrs. E. J. Darlington

Moline, Ill., August 6, 1936

Out of 200 seedlings resulting from two packets of your seeds I succeeded in wintering over only five dozen, perhaps due to the fact that I sowed them a bit late. My 2-year old plants have gone into all kinds of twisted forms, although they started out well in the spring. But I am saving the best until last: I exhibited at two flower shows this spring and won blue ribbons at both of them with my Lyondels.

Berg Madison

Bryan, Ohio, June 22, 1936

I have tried seeds from the best growers in United States and Europe, but the delphiniums resulting from your seeds are the best.

Richardson Gardens

New Brunswick, N. J., June 16, 1936

I have never seen a more magnificent display than my delphiniums from your seed; everyone agrees with me in this respect.

Mrs. Edwin R. Carpenter

Oakland, N. J., June 30, 1936

My experience last year with your seed was most unfortunate; late in the season all my plants, the seedlings as well, were attacked by mildew and only four seedlings survived. I tried seeds from almost every source I have heard of, but I am still of the opinion that yours are superior.

R. D. Gartrell

Cambridge, Mass., August 18, 1936

In August, 1934 I bought a packet of new crop Lyondel seeds; I placed them in the refrigerator at a constant temperature of 48 degrees; they remained there until April, 1936. When they were sown, not many germinated, but SOME DID,—which is more than can be said for other strains bought and started at the same time.

A. H. Herrick, the Digest Gardener

Granville, N. Y., June 29, 1936

From two packets of your seeds I got only six plants.

Harold E. Wilson

Seattle, Wash., August 27, 1936

Contrary to your advice I planted your Connoisseurs' Series seeds received last fall, in flats under glass and got very much better germination than I expected. About 90 plants from these seeds have bloomed this year with very gratifying results. They contain some of the finest bloom I have seen anywhere.

T. H. Campbell

Stow, Mass., July 17, 1936

A man who saw my name in your catalog, drove 25 miles to see if there were such things as 3-inch delphiniums. He went away practically speechless.

Nina M. Estabrook

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 19, 1936

I had some unusually fine plants again this year especially in the aster series with tough, wiry stems. I think you are doing a wonderful work. But so few people know about your delphinium and are satisfied with the ordinary sorts.

Dr. Garland G. Gee.

Milwaukee, Wisc., Sept. 17, 1936

110 per cent germination! A packet of your general mixture seed has produced 110 strong seedlings.

Edwin R. Gruettner, Landscape architect

Franklin, Pa., Oct. 23, 1936

Although I have sown many seeds later to enjoy the results, last year in the sowing of my first packet of Lyondel seeds I embarked on the most pleasant association with flowers I have ever experienced. To follow the germination of a small seed through various stages, finally to behold a spike of delphinium with three inch, yes, 3 1-4 inch florets in all the glorious shades one can imagine, plus the many varieties of form, is a thrill few gardeners have had the pleasure of enjoying. That is the result of one packet of your seed. I have yet to find a person who has seen delphiniums of like size and color. To have created such wonderful delphiniums is truly a milestone in the field of hybridization.

William F. Trozell

Point Pleasant, N. J., Oct. 19, 1936

I obtained eight seedlings from two packets of your seeds, and I consider myself rather an expert with delphinium seeds. This is not a complaint; I merely thought that you would be interested in my report.

Neal R. Van Loon

Little Silver, N. J., Oct. 8, 1936

I shared your no.1 and no. 5 seeds with a friend. Neither of us obtained any germination. One might expect such a thing from a 25 cent packet but not with seeds costing \$2.50 per packet. We feel that you should make good.

Mrs. E. H. Van Siclen

West Hollywood, Calif., Nov. 15, 1936

I had wonderful plants from your seeds.

Annie S. Teske

Islip, L. I. N. Y., Sept. 10, 1936

The delphinium seeds you sent me did not come up. I think you sent me old seeds. For the price I think you should send me good seeds.

John Kroupa

Cleveland, Ohio, March 14, 1937

On March 1st I planted your Connoisseurs' Series seeds; on March 14, 126 seedlings were up.

Mrs. J. T. Kohn

Clarksburg, W. Va., Febr. 9, 1937

I obtained 130 seedlings from one packet of your mixed seeds.

Mrs. Cecil Rector

West Roxbury, Mass., April 15, 1937

From two packets of your general mixture seeds I got only 68 seedlings.

J. H. Taylor

Pittston, Pa., March 29, 1937

I have seen "Lyondels" in some 20 odd plantings in Pennsylvania and New Jersey; they could not even compare with delphiniums secured from many other growers.

Idlecrest Gardens

Peace River, Canada, March 1, 1937

I must here tell you of the wonderful thrills that your packet of Connoisseurs' seeds gave me. As soon as the small seedlings began to bloom I knew that something better than I had ever seen before was making its advent. The blooms were so large and so intensely beautiful that I would hasten out to the delph section every morning to welcome any newcomer that might have arrived; I knew, after a few days, that they would be different from anything that I had seen before. One day a visitor, a total stranger to me, wandered off to the delphinium section of my flower gardens and showed much interest. When I approached him he said, "Mr. Early, I am mad. I have been collecting the best delphiniums from many and all sources; I am a delphinium hobbyist. I have always prided myself in having the best in delphinium. And now to come away off up here in this northwest corner of the world and find a man that is beating me all hollow, I AM MAD!" And so it was with all comers. All would show their astonishment and wonder at the unusual size, and brilliancy of color. I wish that some of these visitors could have seen these Lyondels the following year in their full form and elegance! The summer of 1936 was a series of thrills in that double row of delphs. The seed germinated 125 per cent; at least I got 125 plants from those supposedly 100 seeds. People that had never enthused over a delphinium became at once enthusiastic over these new creations. . . . I have entertained the Governor General of Canada, a Lord from London, the British High Commissioner, and many lesser lights. By the way, the wife of the High Commissioner marveled at the wonderful size and coloring of the delphs; and she came from the land where delphiniums really grow! .

Early's Gardens

West Hollywood, Calif., Aug. 4, 1936

I planted your seeds the first Sunday in December in the worse adobe soil; in June the plants were breath taking. Everyone wanted to know where I got the seeds. The first white alone was worth the price of the seeds.

Annie S. Teske

Pueblo, Colo., August 5, 1936

Because of the extremely hot and dry summer I have only a dozen of your seedlings. One of these is very outstanding; one blossom measured 3 7-8 inches across. This plant was hardly out of bloom all last summer, which was something I had never experienced before.

Mrs. Frank S. Hamilton

Pittsfield, Mass., August, 1936

Your seeds which I planted last Friday are breaking ground this Monday (10 days). I also have fifty of your seedlings just coming into bloom; they are the best I have ever seen.

H. G. Kenyon

Bayside, N. Y., August 3, 1936

Your delphiniums were prize winners and admired by hundreds. They were in bloom for six weeks and are now sending up new growth. There was a great variety of colors, and all fine specimens; only one single.

Mrs. E. L. Smith

Wauwatosa, Wisc., July 10, 1936

With all their faults the Lyondels are still far in the lead and one can find nothing to compare with them.

Van V. Lehman

Alma, Mich., July 9, 1936

The seedlings from your seed surely have done themselves justice this year. Alma is a fairly well gardened city but all who had the pleasure of seeing the wonderful blooms of delphinium got a real surprise.

Carl V. Shook

Staten Island, N. Y., July 2, 1936

Your delphiniums have excited a great deal of admiration from all of my friends who have seen them.

Kenneth D. Smith

Cranford, N. J., August 12, 1936

I have had occasional specimens resulting from imported seed that compared favorably with the plants from your seed but never the high percentage of truly fine delphiniums as yours give. There were few singles, and even fewer that were poor in quality.

S. Houston Baker 3d.

Belvoir, Va., August 14, 1936

I have had such pleasure from delphiniums grown from your seeds. I feel we cannot be too grateful to you for developing such marvelous flowers and for proving to us that we can grow them under the difficult conditions of our climate.

Mrs. Fairfax Harrison

Hicksville, Ohio, August, 1936

Your white delphinium seeds came 100 per cent white. I consider this a real accomplishment.

Dr. H. M. Jordan

Sandwich, Ill., July 8, 1936

The plants raised from your seed are blooming profusely in a wide and amazing range of color. I have flowers measuring 3 inches in diameter. And yet we have had only half inch of rain in the last two months and the plants have not been watered artificially. How they live at all is a wonder to me.

Roland F. Barker

Ellenville, N. Y., August 18, 1936

The delphiniums I raised from your seeds exceeded my wildest expectations.

A. B. C. Rose

Westwood, N. J., June 11, 1936

The last packet of seeds I got from you germinated 90 per cent.

Edgevale Gardens

White Plains, N. Y., Sept. 2, 1936

My daughter saw your delphinium plants in bloom at Gay Nineteens Inn at Carmel, N. Y. She says their beauty is beyond belief.

Mrs. D. J. Bursch

New York, N. Y., Sept. 9, 1936

In my opinion your self lavenders, deep lilac and plum selfs, and a certain deep bright lilac purple, as well as some exceptionally brilliant deep purples are the best for their color that I have seen. . . . I am just finishing my discarding process and have thrown out about fifty thousand plants.

Vladimir Simkhovitch

Stockton, Calif., July 18, 1936

This part of California has a climate hard on delphiniums; I hardly know why I grow them for I never see those four foot spikes and three inch flowers, and one half of my plants succumb each year. However your seeds produce the best delphiniums I have grown during my four years' of experience.

Cherokee Gardens

Detroit, Mich., July 1, 1936

I saw some delphiniums grown from your seeds in the garden of my sister-in-law, and although I won several prizes for my delphiniums and was one of the first people here in Michigan to raise Wrexham seeds, the comparison was so striking that I almost hung my head in shame.

W. A. P. John

Winnetka, Ill., Febr. 14, 1937

My plants from your seeds have wrung exclamations from all those who beheld them when in bloom.

No. St. Paul, Minn., April 10, 1937

I still think I like the Lyondels best.

The Boody Gardens

Patterson, N. J., July 13, 1936

My results with your delphinium seed have been remarkable; spikes 6-8 feet high, and flower 2-3 inches across. I went to see the exhibit by Mr. Steichen in New York and came home feeling very proud of my display in a small garden of about a hundred plants for mine did not suffer badly in comparison. I have used seeds of many specialists and quite agree with Mrs. Arthur Knapp who announced at a meeting of the New York Horticultural Society that the best seeds of delphinium in this country come from Lyondel Gardens.

Mrs. H. D. Thomas

I CANNOT AGREE

I cannot agree with those of my customers who claim that the Lyondel seeds are the best in this country or abroad. There are many strains as good or better. The Lyondels may have something which others may not have, just as other strains have characteristics which have not been sharply accentuated in the Lyondels. Undoubtedly other strains will give a far better performance in some localities than the Lyondels. This is particularly true where mildew is a factor. Grown in a climate which is not kind to the mildew the Lyondel delphiniums cannot be as rigidly selected for mildew resistance as those grown in more humid regions. On the other hand, warmer summers, less rainfall, and usually poor growing conditions for delphinium tend to endow the Lyondels with a more lasting quality. Nor can I agree with those who claim that the Lyondel strain produces nothing but ordinary delphiniums. Plant breeders all over the world are wide-awake folks; they secure and test all promising strains and incorporate the best into theirs. Where the average gardener raises a few hundred seedlings purchased from different growers, the alert breeder grows them by the thousands. This year many such seedlings are grown in the Lyondel gardens. The better things are bred into the Lyondels and passed on to my customers. Just as I have made free use of other strains, other breeders have made a free use of mine. Only the self-sufficient and hide-bound breeders retain their isolation; sooner or later such breeders will find themselves losing ground. Decay begins with complete satisfaction. I for one, am not satisfied with the Lyondels; when that unfortunate day arrives, the Lyondels will pass out of the picture.

SEED OFFERINGS FOR 1937-38

All seeds offered here are strictly fresh; all of them are tested for germination before placing on the market. Any failure you may experience with their germination will be your own. You may be the best expert in the world, but you cannot absolutely control your seed-bed environment. The more highly bred the seeds are, the more sensitive will they be to adverse environments.

All seeds are the result of cross pollination by hand, and in my seeds there is no such thing as best or next best; each seed-lot represents the best in its class. By the best I do not mean the best in this country or in the world, but the best in my garden only.

The assorted crosses are made with the idea of intensifying the particular characteristic for which they are bred. Thus, white crosses should give you comparatively more whites than colored varieties, but they do not assure you

all white progenies. Same applies to light or dark shades, to blue colors, and to selfs. The light crosses will not give you only light colored seedlings, but any color may be represented; however, you will obtain more and better light shaded seedlings from them than you will from other assortments.

1. Mixed Crosses

These represent all crosses and are of as high a quality as any other offered in this list. This mixture is made for the gardener who does not have large enough space to accomodate more than one packet of seeds.

2. Dark Crosses

Only darker shades of delphiniums are used here. Special attention is paid to deep, sparkling tones. Most of the parents are large flowered delphiniums with flowers three inches across or more. Occassionally a smaller flowered type is used to give a sharper accent to color, stiffness to the spike, length to the flowering spike, etc.

3. Light Crosses

Like the foregoing, except that softer shades are used exclusively. Some of the most attractive delphiniums are to be found here.

4. Blue Self Crosses

This year for the first time I offer the pure blue selfs with greater confidence because a number of exceptionally fine blue parents are available. Purer colors, larger flowers, and longer spikes are now in prospect. However, we are still far from the ideal blue with as long spikes and as large flowers as the best of present-day hybrids.

5. Orchid Self Crosses

With a mild pride I point to this group of delphiniums as the most outstanding contribution of the Lyondel Gardens. Absolutely self colors in orchid, in lilac and lavender, and in smokey colors that defy description. Fine, stately spikes, very large flowers, and a great variety of floral patterns. These delphiniums are so different as to baffle the ordinary gardener. They are excelled for cut flowers; their charm and refinement is truly captivating. And the best part of it all is the fact that most of the seedlings come true to the color.

6. Deep Lilac and Violet Self Crosses

Like the foregoing in every respect except that the colors are much deeper. Companion plants to the orchid self delphiniums, deep lavender, violet, prune purple, absolutely self, these crosses will lend distinction to your garden. Not as large a percentage of the seedlings will come true to color as in the foregoing crosses.

7. Pure White Crosses

My whites have steadily improved and I am offering them to you with much less hesitation this year than formerly. Purer colors, larger flowers, and larger spikes are now available. If you want contrast in your delphinium,

border, don't make the mistake of resorting to lilies; use white delphiniums instead.

8. White x Orchid Self Crosses

By crossing whites with orchids I am hoping to offer you a greater variety of self colors as well as better whites. Some infinitely charming stained glass effects should result from this union.

9. White x Blue Self Crosses

For larger spiked and larger flowered blues I know of no better combination than a union between vigorous whites and clear colored blues. This is to avoid the going around in a circle which results from crossing together pure blue selfs without bringing in a much needed vigor. The whites should furnish the vigor. I hope you appreciate the fact that a cross between whites and blues will greatly disturb the hereditary makeup of the parent plants and the progenies may show almost anything. But this is a real adventure which all true gardeners crave.

10. Deepest Color Series

Last year's "Black Progressions" have been withdrawn and in their place I am offering you the deepest, most intense, and most brilliant colored delphinium crosses. The depth and the luminosity of colors are the rule here and all other characters take a back seat. Comparatively few seedlings come true to color, but when they do, their dazzling splendor will bewitch you for life.

11. Aster Sepaloid Crosses

Long, narrow, often wavy or frilled sepals characterize this group. The flowers are mostly without eyes, a charming distinction. Flowers are very large, in fact the largest flowers are often in this group. Colors vary from selfs to light and dark shades.

12. Resistant Series

This represents a separate line of crosses and is not allowed to mix with others. A truly new strain is represented here. The spikes well anchored and will not fall over and break under wind lashed rain. The petioles of the leaves are leathery; the pedicels of the flowers are like wires, and the longevity of the original parent from which these have descended truly phenomenal. Flowers are not very large but the colors are exceptionally brilliant; the length of the spikes will be average but well balanced. This group represents a progression towards the kind of delphinium that will thrive under less favorable situation. But please approach it with not too many expectations as this strain is still in its early stage of evolution.

C-1. Connoisseurs' Series

The coming novelties of 1938 cast their shadows in the Connoisseurs' Series. The newest and the best selections which will appear late this season among thousands of new seedlings will constitute the parents. Because of the very large number of new seedlings, this year it will be possible for me to offer seeds in assorted lots. I will be able to give you all the crosses described above. Please order according to code numbers; thus, C-1 is mixed crosses of the Connoisseurs' Series, C-2 is Dark Crosses of the same series, etc.

Do not plan on sowing the seeds of this series before next spring as the complete series will not be available before the latter part of October. If placed in tightly stoppered vials and kept in the refrigerator these seeds will come up like weeds the following spring.

SEEDLINGS

This year for the first time I am offering seedlings for fall planting. These are from seeds sown in April and transplanted into the field. Available for delivery in September. All orders must reach me before the first of September as after that date all unsold seedlings will be planted in their permanent location and will not be dug up for anyone. In mixtures only.

Seedlings resulting from seeds sown in August will be ready next spring. These will be available in assorted lots.

PRICE LIST

All seeds at \$2.50 per packet. No trade discount or reductions of any sort given. If anyone offers seeds as Lyondel Hybrids at prices less than mine, he is either a fool or a fraud. The same applies to seedlings.

All seedlings at \$2.50 per dozen postpaid.

PINK ORIENTAL POPPIES

ALL SEEDS CROSS POLLINATED BY HAND; ALL SEEDLINGS FROM SUCH SEEDS

The breath-taking beauty of the newer oriental poppies opens new and undreamed of vistas of dazzling splendor. Bold plantings of masses of such poppies will bring to your garden an irresistible appeal and infinite waves of luminosity that will drown all earthly cares and sorrows. Whites, smokies, pearl pinks, all tints of lavenders and old rose, infinite tones of glowing salmons, apple blossom pinks in their silvery radiance, cerise, watermelon pinks, crushed raspberry, and all the intergradations of these offer to you a color symphony unsurpassed and unforgettable. Huge flowers on sturdy stems, dainty flowers above graceful foliage, fringed poppies, fluted poppies, poppies with bold basal spots, and poppies with no spots at all; soft pinks, warm pinks, and pinks that glow and sparkle; flowers that will measure nine and ten inches across and supported by forty inch stems, and poppies that will fit into your rock garden to spray it with a new sort of luminosity; such, my friends, is the vision I bring to you.

I know of nobody else either in this country or abroad who offers poppy seeds cross pollinated by hand. Yet there is a demand for such seeds and I was unable to meet it last year. I use nothing but superb parents in my breeding work; the cream of the modern varieties and the best of my own originations are combined in a happy union to yield a fairly good percentage of superior poppies, although the orange, scarlet and the ordinary red shades will also crop out and should be eliminated as fast as they appear.

Seeds will be ready in August and may either be sown then and wintered over in glass covered cold frames, or kept until spring.

Seedlings are available for spring delivery only. No shipment will be made after the first week in April. Prepare your bed in the fall and plant the seedlings in April.

Seeds two dollars a packet; seedlings two dollars per dozen postpaid.

AND NOW I BRING YOU SOLID RED HEMEROCALLIS

ALL SEEDS CROSS POLLINATED BY HAND; ALL SEEDLINGS FROM SUCH SEEDS

And when I say red, my friends, I mean RED; not the tiny flowered and muddy colored "reds" that have been sold at outrageously high prices, but clear, brilliant reds with flowers six inches or better across. Their beauty will hold you spellbound; planted with pale yellow hemerocallis, they will bring you a combination not easily surpassed. After convincing myself that the parents which I use in my crosses will give a reasonable number of reds, maroons and scarlets in addition to generous splashes of red on yellow and oranges, I am placing on the market for the first time a **very limited** quantity of seeds and seedlings which will be ready in September. The seeds may be planted either in glass covered cold frames as soon as received, or saved until the following spring. The seeds have great vitality and will germinate without fail; the seedlings are fool-proof and will establish themselves with ease. Hemerocallis usually blooms two years from seed.

Seeds \$2.50 per packet of 25 seeds; seedlings \$2.50 per dozen postpaid.

TERMS

Cash with order. No credit extended.